

What is claimed is:

1. A semiconductor light emitting device, comprising:

a semiconductor substrate;

a light emitting layer forming portion provided  
5 on said semiconductor substrate, in which an active layer  
made of a compound semiconductor is sandwiched between a  
first clad layer and a second clad layer made of compound  
semiconductor having band gap greater than that of said  
active layer, respectively and having a different  
10 conductivity type each other; and

a window layer provided at least above said  
second clad layer,

wherein said second clad layer is made of a  
compound semiconductor having a refractive index greater  
15 than that of said first clad layer provided on said  
semiconductor substrate side.

2. The semiconductor light emitting device  
according to claim 1, wherein said window layer is made  
of a compound semiconductor having a refractive index  
20 greater than that of said second clad layer.

3. The semiconductor light emitting device  
according to claim 1, wherein the refractive index of  
said second clad layer is greater than the refractive  
index of said first clad layer by 6% to 4%.

25 4. The semiconductor light emitting device  
according to claim 1, wherein said first clad layer is

made of  $In_{0.49}(Ga_{1-s}Al_s)_{0.51}P$  ( $0.6 \leq s \leq 1$ ) and said second clad layer is made of  $In_{0.49}(Ga_{1-y}Al_y)_{0.51}P$  ( $0.4 \leq y \leq 0.75$ ,  $y < s$ ).

5. The semiconductor light emitting device according to claim 4, wherein said window layer is made of  $Al_vGa_{1-v}As$  ( $0.6 \leq v \leq 0.85$ ).

6. The semiconductor light emitting device according to claim 1, wherein said first clad layer is made of  $Al_zGa_{1-z}As$  ( $0.6 \leq z \leq 0.9$ ) and said second clad 10 layer is made of  $Al_uGa_{1-u}As$  ( $0.4 < u \leq 0.85$ ,  $u < z$ ).

7. The semiconductor light emitting device according to claim 6, wherein said window layer is made of  $Al_wGa_{1-w}As$  ( $0.4 \leq w < 0.7$ ,  $w < u$ ).

8. The semiconductor light emitting device 15 according to claim 1, wherein a substrate side window layer is formed on said semiconductor substrate side of said first clad layer and said substrate side window layer is made of a material having a refractive index smaller than that of said first clad layer.